March 21, 2003

To: Professor Jacquelyn Kegley  
Chair, Academic Senate CSU

From: David S. Spence  
Executive Vice Chancellor

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution

Following is the response of the Office of the Chancellor to the resolutions approved at the January 23-24, 2003 meeting of the Academic Senate and addressed to the Chancellor.

AS-2585-02/FA Whistleblower Protection

Senate resolution AS-2585-02/FA “calls on campus academic senates to work with their local administrators to review, develop, and approve campus polices on ‘whistleblower’ protection” and “to educate faculty and staff” about campus and system wide policy on whistleblower protection.

System Human Resources applauds this effort, and notes that the resolution informs the campus senates of the need to defer to system wide policy. System Human Resources offers its assistance to the Academic Senate as it implements this resolution.

CSU Executive Orders 821 and 822 specifically address the reporting of improper activities (E.O. 821) and the reporting of alleged retaliation for reporting improper activities (E.O. 822.) These executive orders were established to comply with §8547.12 of the Government Code, the California Whistleblower Protection Act.

E.O.821 §V. Protected Disclosures on Campus, states

...(E)ach campus president shall appoint an appropriate administrator to receive any such protected disclosures, which will then be processed on the campus in accordance with the procedures in this executive order, except that the campus president shall substitute for the chancellor.
E.O. 822 §II. Campus Procedures, states

...(E)mployees and applicants for employment may file a written compliant alleging retaliation for having made protected disclosure with their supervisor or manager or with the chancellor’s designee. A complaint filed with a campus supervisor or manager must include all of the information required ...(under this executive order)... All such complaints filed on a campus must promptly be referred to the vice chancellor of human resources in the Chancellor’s Office. Each campus president is responsible for developing and issuing a campus directive implementing this requirement.

AS-2586-02/FA The Role of Faculty in Development of Curricula and Location of Academic Programs in the California State University System

This resolution is directed to the leadership of CSU campuses, and we are confident that it provides helpful and sound advice to campuses as they develop academic programs.

AS-2589-02/Floor Apportionment of Senate Seats

As we noted in response to the November 2002 action of the Academic Senate to modify its Bylaws, this is an internal, organizational function of the body and we have no comment.

AS-2590-03/TEKR/AA Hal Charnofsky Distinguished Senator and Beloved Colleague

It is with a great sense of sadness that we acknowledge this resolution from the Academic Senate. As the resolution describes, Hal Charnofsky was an outstanding senator, a distinguished professor, a valued community member, and a gentlemen. We share your feelings of loss and fully concur in the title bestowed by this resolution, Distinguished Senator and Beloved Colleague.

AS-2595-03/FA Opposition to a Decrease in CSU Funding Tied to an Increase in Student-Faculty Ratio

As the State Legislature enters into the crucial period of discussion over the prospectus of solving the state’s budget crisis, the CSU is firmly committed to acquiring the appropriate level of funding needed in order to provide the quality of education the citizens of the State of California have come to expect. From the development of the Trustees’ Budget through negotiation with the Governor and the Department of Finance and into the Legislative Committee hearings, the CSU has worked in concerted effort with various stakeholders to maximize the financial resources to be made available through the state budget process.
The CSU understands the significance of the student-faculty ratio and its impact on faculty teaching loads and the ability to achieve the goal specified in ACR 73, as well as other deficiencies and workload adjustments proposed by the Governor’s Budget. As such, the CSU will continue to communicate to the legislature and other important stakeholders the overall needs of the university and the importance of an appropriate level of funding to provide a quality education to those students we have pledged to serve. Every facet of the university’s budget plan is important and the CSU will continue to advocate the total financial needs of the university to all decision makers.

**AS-2596-03FA  Program Suspension/Discontinuation/Dissolution**

This resolution is directed to campus academic senates. The resolution is consistent with policies on academic program discontinuation outlined in Coded Memorandum AAP 91-14, dated April 2, 1991. We are confident that the senate resolution provides helpful and sound advice to campuses as they consider their policies.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

DSS:ap

c: Charles B. Reed  
    CSU Presidents  
    Gary A. Hammerstrom